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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH3050 – Export prices declined approximately one percent due to the weakening of the Thai baht. Domestic prices will likely trend downward in anticipation of the sales of the government rice stocks.

Post:
Bangkok

Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending June 3, 2013

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,160	-	1,145	-	1,150	1,110	-	1,141	1,141
WR 100 B	560	-	555	-	555	530	550	550	555
PB 100%	550	-	555	-	555	555	550	553	557
PB 5%	545	-	550	-	550	550	545	548	552
WR 5%	540	-	545	-	540	515	540	536	540
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	510	-	510	515
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	505	-	505	510
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	500	-	500	505
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	530	480	-	505	510
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.3 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices declined approximately one percent due to the weakening of the Thai baht to 30.3 baht/US\$, as compared to 29.8 baht/US\$ in the previous week. Domestic prices will likely trend downward as the government will have to sell its rice stocks worth approximately 100 billion baht (\$3.3 billion) to support the paddy pledging program for the remaining months of the year. Presently, the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) which funds the program is facing a squeeze due to delays in the sales of the government rice stocks. The loan the government has given BAAC to cover the MY2012/13 Off-Season Rice Paddy Pledging Program which will cost approximately 105 billion baht (\$3.5 billion) has only about 37 billion baht (\$1.2 billion) left. The government needs to raise more revenue to cover the program by selling its rice stocks. The MY 2012/13 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program (October 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013) received pledges of approximately 14.2 million metric tons (9.4 million metric tons milled equivalent). The BAAC provided an estimated 220 billion baht (\$7.3 billion) in loans to farmers under the program.

Meanwhile, the current MY2012/13 Off-Season Rice Paddy Pledging Program, which began on April 1, 2013 and will run until September 15, 2013, has already received pledges of approximately 3.0 million metric tons of paddy (2.0 million metric tons milled equivalent as of May 10, 2013), most of it in the form of white rice paddy. The BAAC has so far provided approximately 32 billion baht (\$1.1 billion) in loans to farmers under the program. Presently, the government is holding rice stocks of approximately 17 million metric tons milled rice, of which around 8 million tons (mostly white rice) are carry-over stocks from the previous pledging program and the remainder is rice stocks from this year's pledges.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding premium white rice and fragrant rice) for May 27 – June 2, 2013 totaled 44,665 metric tons, up 12,877 metric tons from the previous week, and up 5,999 metric tons from the four- week moving average of 38,667 metric tons. Exports of white and parboiled rice from January 1 through June 2, 2013 totaled 1,534,420 metric tons, down 31.6 percent (2,244,182 metric tons) from the same period last year.

Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) from January 1 through April 30, 2013 amounted to approximately 2.01 million metric tons, down 10.3 percent (2.24 million metric tons) from the same period last year.

Table 2: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)					
WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Mar 17	67,626	83,153	915	980	-6.6
Mar 24	77,201	78,025	992	1,089	-8.9
Mar 31	71,921	73,544	1,064	1,205	-11.7
Apr 7	76,336	73,271	1,141	1,321	-13.6
Apr 14	58,063	70,880	1,199	1,402	-14.5
Apr 21	64,148	67,617	1,263	1,509	-16.3
Apr 28	77,045	68,898	1,340	1,639	-18.2
May 5*	39,819	59,769	1,380	1,767	-21.9
May 12	26,397	51,852	1,406	1,886	-25.4
May 19	51,816	48,769	1,458	2,025	-28.0
May 26	31,788	37,455	1,490	2,168	-31.3
Jun 2	44,665	38,667	1,534	2,244	-31.6
<p>Note on data: * Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports. The reporting authority was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.</p>					
Source: Board of Trade of Thailand					

End of report